



German Pinscher





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The German Pinscher belongs to FCI group number 2:

Pinscher and Schnauzer - Molossoid Breeds - Swiss Mountain and Cattle Dogs

History and Present

The German Pinscher is a German breed that traces its roots to old European guardian dogs, like the Schnauzers do too. The German Pinscher shares the same ancestors as the Schnauzer which was also referred to as the Wire Haired Pinscher. Originally the German Pinschers were kept as ratters and stable dogs.

The first breed standards were published in Germany in 1881.

During WWII the breed went nearly extinct. Fortunately the breed was saved thanks to a couple of German Pinschers that survived the war and three oversized Miniature Pinschers.

The German Pinscher has always been a fairly rare breed both in Finland and elsewhere in the world.

The breed came to Finland in the 1910's, but systematic breeding didn't start until the 1960's.

Some 90 puppies are registered in Finland annually. The figure is based on the number of registrations between 2005 and 2009. The number of breeders has always been small, with 5 to 7 active breeders. Fortunately the number of new and young breeders is on the rise.

Temperament

The German Pinscher is an alert, vivacious and friendly dog that has some guarding and hunting instinct. Consistent and stern training from early age is beneficial for raising an active and good dog citizen and prepares the dog for every day challenges.

The German Pinscher is an intelligent breed that is quick to learn, but requires motivating and perseverance from the trainer. The German Pinscher is a good dog for e.g. agility and obedience training.

Appearance

The German Pinscher is strong and elegant, square build, a companion and exercise dog for families. The colours are black and tan and different kinds of solid browns. The coat is short and shiny. The size is 45 to 50 cm.

The head of a German Pinscher is elongated, the neck noble and long. The ears are folded forward.

German Pinscher has flowing outlines, elegant and square build body. Topline is slightly sloping from withers towards rear. The movement is harmonious, sure, powerful and uninhibited with good length of stride. German Pinscher is a trotter and its trot is ground covering and relaxed.



Health

The German Pinscher is a relatively healthy breed, especially considering the small size of the breed. There is some Hereditary Cataract (HC) and PHTVL/PHPV. Also some hip dysplasia (C hips) can be found, but since the breed is moderately light build it causes no problems for the dog.

Typical problems for the Pinschers are reactions after the first or second distemper vaccination. Younger dogs can suffer from different stages of Ear Margin Vasculitis, which often causes bleeding. This normally gets better by age.

Care

The German Pinscher is a low maintenance dog. Only brushing to remove loose hair is needed for the short coat. Brushing is also good for skin care and helps the dog to get use of handling.

Other maintenance includes normal dog care activities such as health care, washing, cleaning teeth and ears, cutting nails and taking care of balanced nutrition and sufficient exercise.





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